

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : BENJAMIN R. HARDING ET AL.
Confirmation No. : 4375
Serial No. : 10/628,154
Filed : July 28, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3745
Examiner : Igor Kershteyn

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AUG 21 2006

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Docket No. : EH-10855 (03-171)
Customer No. : 34704

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the documents on the attached Form PTO-1449 are brought to the Examiner's attention. Copies of the non-US-patent documents are enclosed. Per MPEP 609 III A (3), also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report in which said documents are cited.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN R. HARDING ET AL.

By 

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Date: August 21, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted this 21st day of August, 2006 to the USPTO, at Fax No. 571-273-0025.


Antonette Sullo

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/628,154
Filing Date	July 28, 2003
First Named Inventor	Benjamin R. Harding
Art Unit	3745
Examiner Name	Igor Kershteyn
Attorney Docket Number	EH-10855 (03-171)

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,698,750	10-17-1972	Eastcott et al.	RECEIVED
		US- 4,417,855	11-29-1983	Jepsen	
		US- 4,648,796	03-10-1987	Maghenzanl	AUG 21 2006
		US- 4,832,574	05-23-1989	Woodwell et al.	
		US- 4,836,750	06-06-1989	Modafferi et al.	OFFICE OF PETITIONS
		US- 4,844,694	07-04-1989	Naudet	
		US- 5,049,017	09-17-1991	Reynolds	
		US- 5,236,307	08-17-1993	Ng et al.	
		US- 5,542,324	08-06-1996	Hormannsdorfer	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code* Number* Kind Code ³ (if known)				
		JP 62251403 A	11-02-1987			
		DE 3400835 A1	07-18-1985			
		DE 854604 C	11-06-1952			
		DE 213 421 C	09-27-1908			

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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		Art Unit	3745 OFFICE OF PETITIONS
		Examiner Name	Igor Kershteyn
Sheet 2 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	EH-10855 (03-171)	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		European Search Report for EP Patent Application No. 04254496.5	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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